

MARC SILVESTRI - ARIF PRIANTO



B O O K T H R E E

BATMAN & THE JOKER

THE DEADLY DUO

AGES 17+
DC.COM



FORGING THE FUTURE ONE HERO AT A TIME

A YEARLONG
STORYTELLING
INITIATIVE



DAWN OF
DC

NEW EPIC
SERIES

NEW
CREATIVE
TEAMS

NEW
BATTLES
TO FIGHT

ART BY DAN MORA

© & ™ DC

•WARNING•
LEVEL 3 LOCKDOWN
ENABLED

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

IF YOU
WOULDN'
MIND
SHUTTING
OFF THE
ALARM.

COMPUTER,
RUN A FULL
**ENVIRONMENTAL
SEARCH** ON
SPECIMEN CODED
0103.

CUE UP ALL
AUDIO AND VIDEO
LEADING UP TO
THE EVENT, IF YOU
PLEASE.

NO
ONE IS TO
BLAME HERE,
SIR. WE'RE
ALL QUITE
TIRED...

...BEST
TO CHECK
ON HIM
THOUGH.

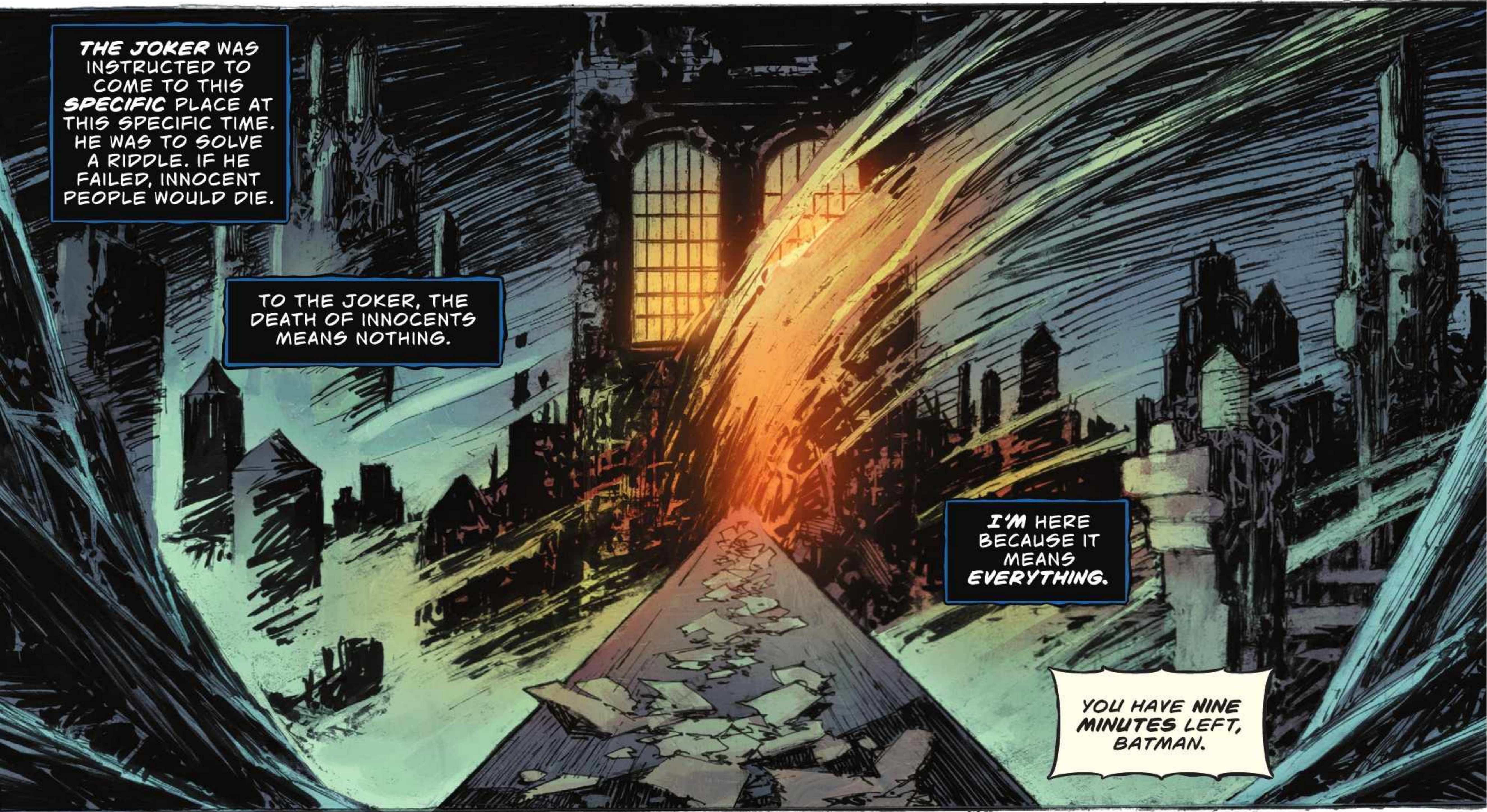




WAYNE RECYCLING
HAS BEEN
SHUTTERED SINCE
THE GREAT
DEPRESSION.

THE CONVEYOR BELTS
AND FURNACES HAVEN'T
MOVED OR BURNED
FOR 88 YEARS...

...UNTIL
TONIGHT.



THE JOKER WAS
INSTRUCTED TO
COME TO THIS
SPECIFIC PLACE AT
THIS SPECIFIC TIME.
HE WAS TO SOLVE
A RIDDLE. IF HE
FAILED, INNOCENT
PEOPLE WOULD DIE.

TO THE JOKER, THE
DEATH OF INNOCENTS
MEANS NOTHING.

I'M HERE
BECAUSE IT
MEANS
EVERYTHING.

YOU HAVE NINE
MINUTES LEFT,
BATMAN.



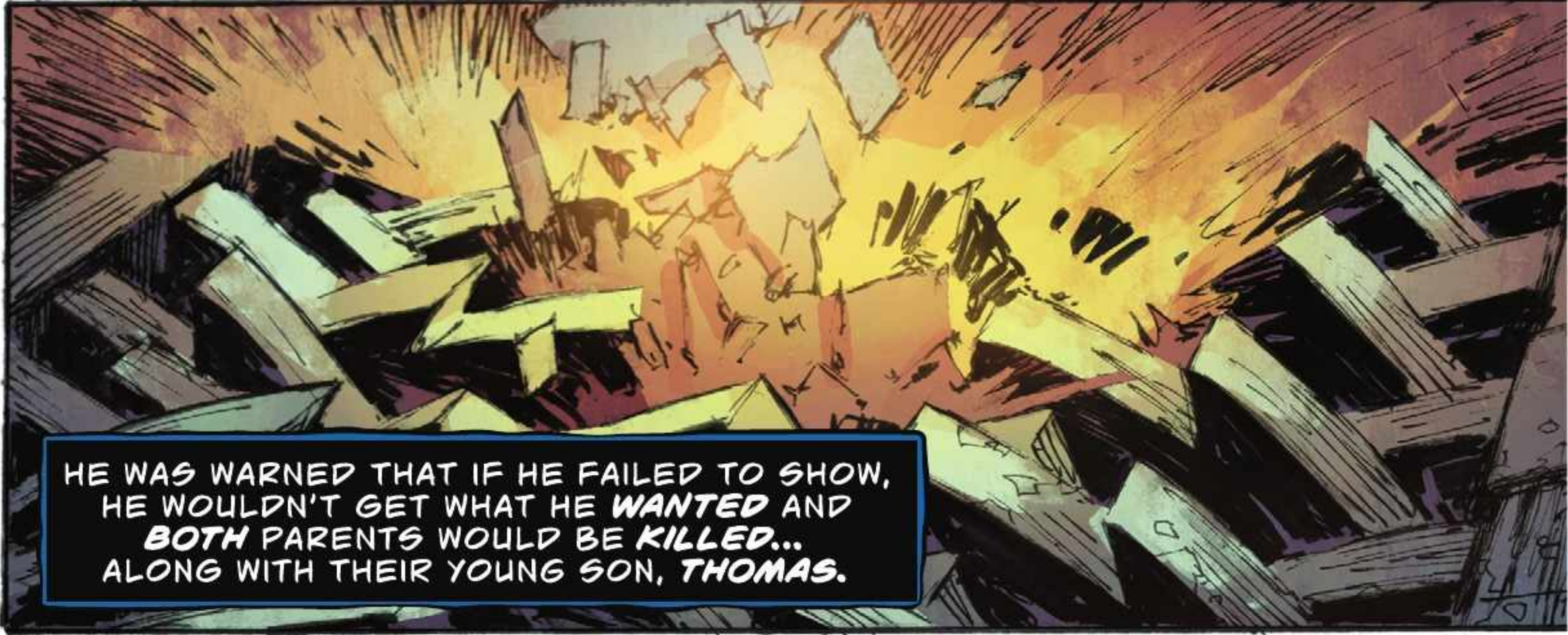
A MOTHER AND
FATHER...THE JOKER
WAS SUPPOSED TO
CHOOSE WHICH ONE
WOULD LIVE...AND
WHICH ONE WOULD DIE.

EVERYTHING
NEEDED TO MAKE
THE "CORRECT"
CHOICE IS HERE.

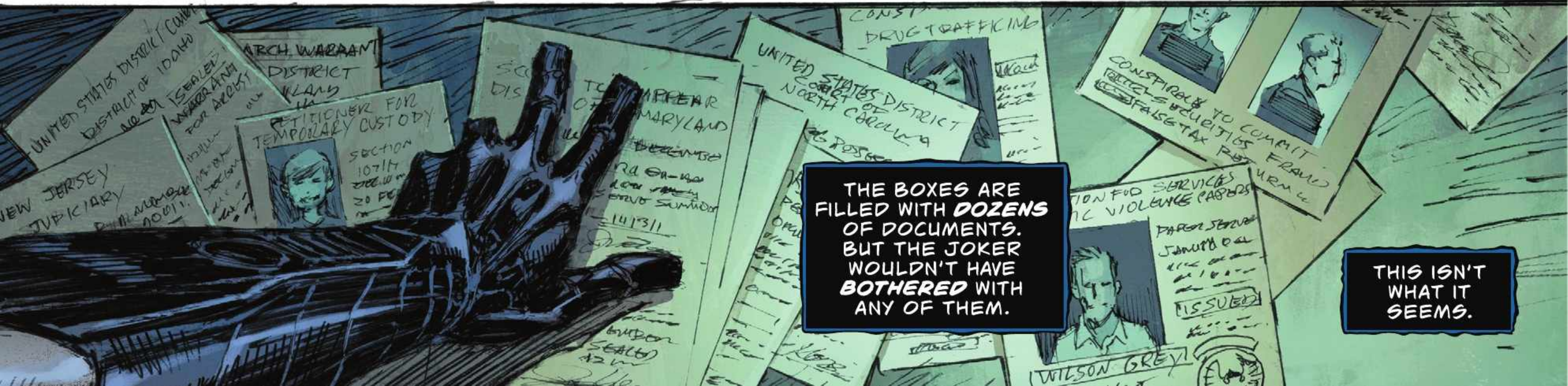


MAKE THE
RIGHT CHOICE,
BOTH LIVE...

...CHOOSE WRONG,
BOTH DIE.



HE WAS WARNED THAT IF HE FAILED TO SHOW,
HE WOULDN'T GET WHAT HE WANTED AND
BOTH PARENTS WOULD BE KILLED...
ALONG WITH THEIR YOUNG SON, THOMAS.



THE BOXES ARE
FILLED WITH DOZENS
OF DOCUMENTS.
BUT THE JOKER
WOULDN'T HAVE
BOTHERED WITH
ANY OF THEM.

THIS ISN'T
WHAT IT
SEEMS.

I IMAGINE A PUZZLE LIKE THIS WOULD BE QUITE VEXING FOR ONE SUCH AS YOURSELF, BATMAN...

...A SOPHIE'S CHOICE OF WHO LIVES AND WHO DIES WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR SOMEONE WITH AN OBSSIVE NEED TO SAVE EVERYONE...I ADMIRE YOU FOR TRYING.

YOU HAVE FIVE MINUTES.

I SCAN THE DOCUMENTS AND THE ROOM AROUND ME...

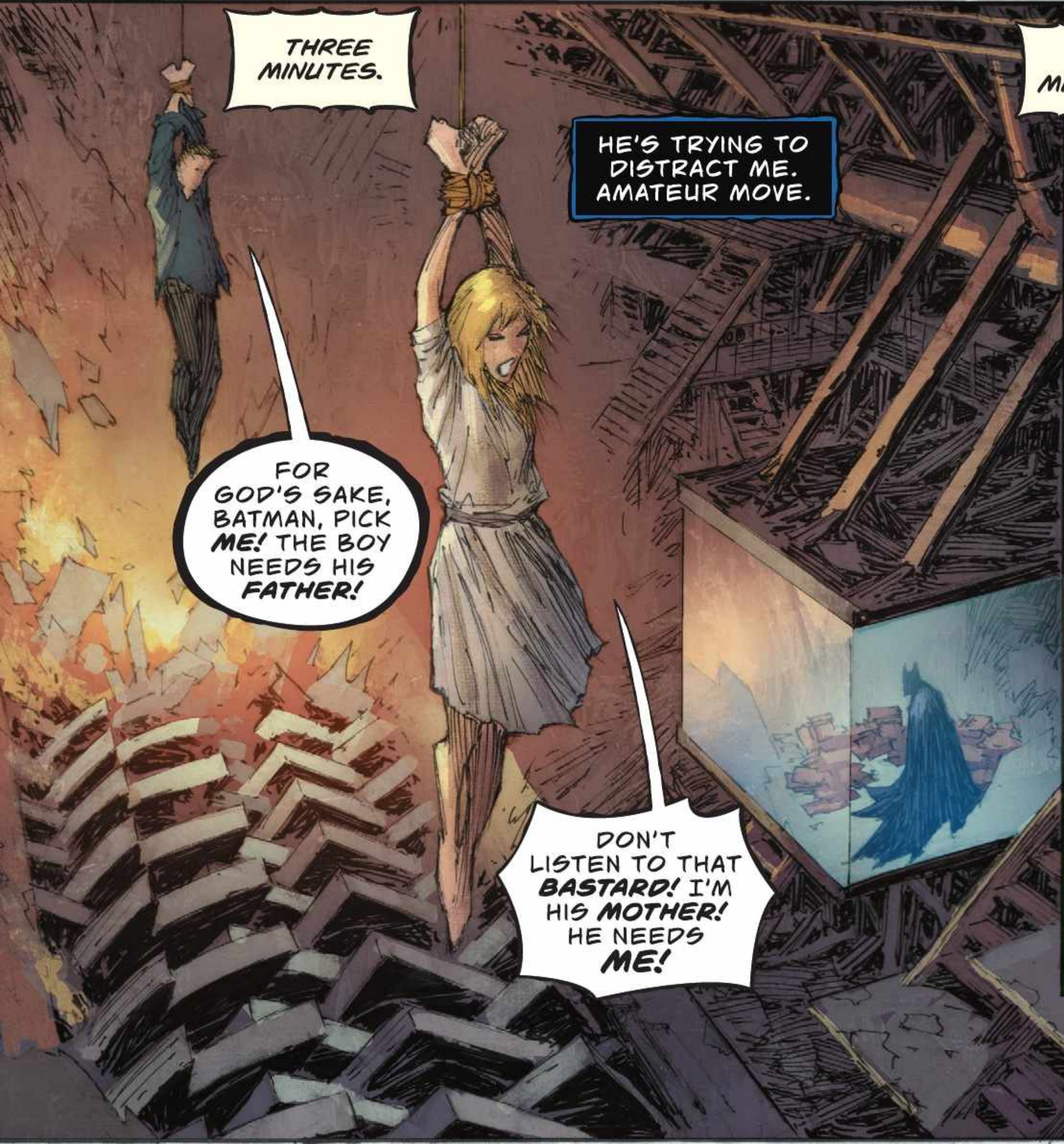


...WHEN I GET MY OPENING, I'LL NEED TO MOVE FAST.

THE PAGES TELL A NIGHTMARE STORY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, ABUSE, AND A LITANY OF FEDERAL CHARGES FOR **WILLIAM GREY** INVOLVING FRAUD AND RACKETEERING...

...AS WELL AS CHARGES OF DRUG TRAFFICKING AND POSSESSION FOR **LISA GREY**.

AS I'M SURE YOU'VE GATHERED, THE GREYS ARE NOT THE BEST OF PEOPLE...LET ALONE PARENTS. IT MUST BE HARD ON YOUNG THOMAS.



THREE MINUTES.

HE'S TRYING TO DISTRACT ME. AMATEUR MOVE.

FOR GOD'S SAKE, BATMAN, PICK ME! THE BOY NEEDS HIS FATHER!

DON'T LISTEN TO THAT BASTARD! I'M HIS MOTHER! HE NEEDS ME!

TWO MINUTES.

THE GREYS ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF A BITTER CUSTODY BATTLE OVER THOMAS...

...THE MOTIVATION LOOKS TO BE STRICTLY MONETARY.

WILLIAM GREY HAS AN EXPENSIVE GIRLFRIEND AND DOESN'T WANT TO SPEND THAT MONEY ON CHILD SUPPORT...



...WHILE LISA GREY HAS A DRUG HABIT TO FINANCE.

ONE MINUTE.

VRREEET VRREEET VRREEET

AN ALERT GOES OFF IN MY EARPIECE. THERE'S TROUBLE AT THE BATCAVE.





WITH HIS PARENTS IN AND OUT OF LEGAL TROUBLE, TEN-YEAR-OLD THOMAS SPENDS MUCH OF HIS TIME WITH HIS **AUNT SHEILA** AND HER **HUSBAND**.

THEY HAVE NO CHILDREN OF THEIR OWN AND HAVE FOUGHT FOR LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP OF HIM FOR YEARS.

THE **ONLY** PHOTOS HE'S **SMILING** IN ARE THE ONES WITH HIS AUNT.

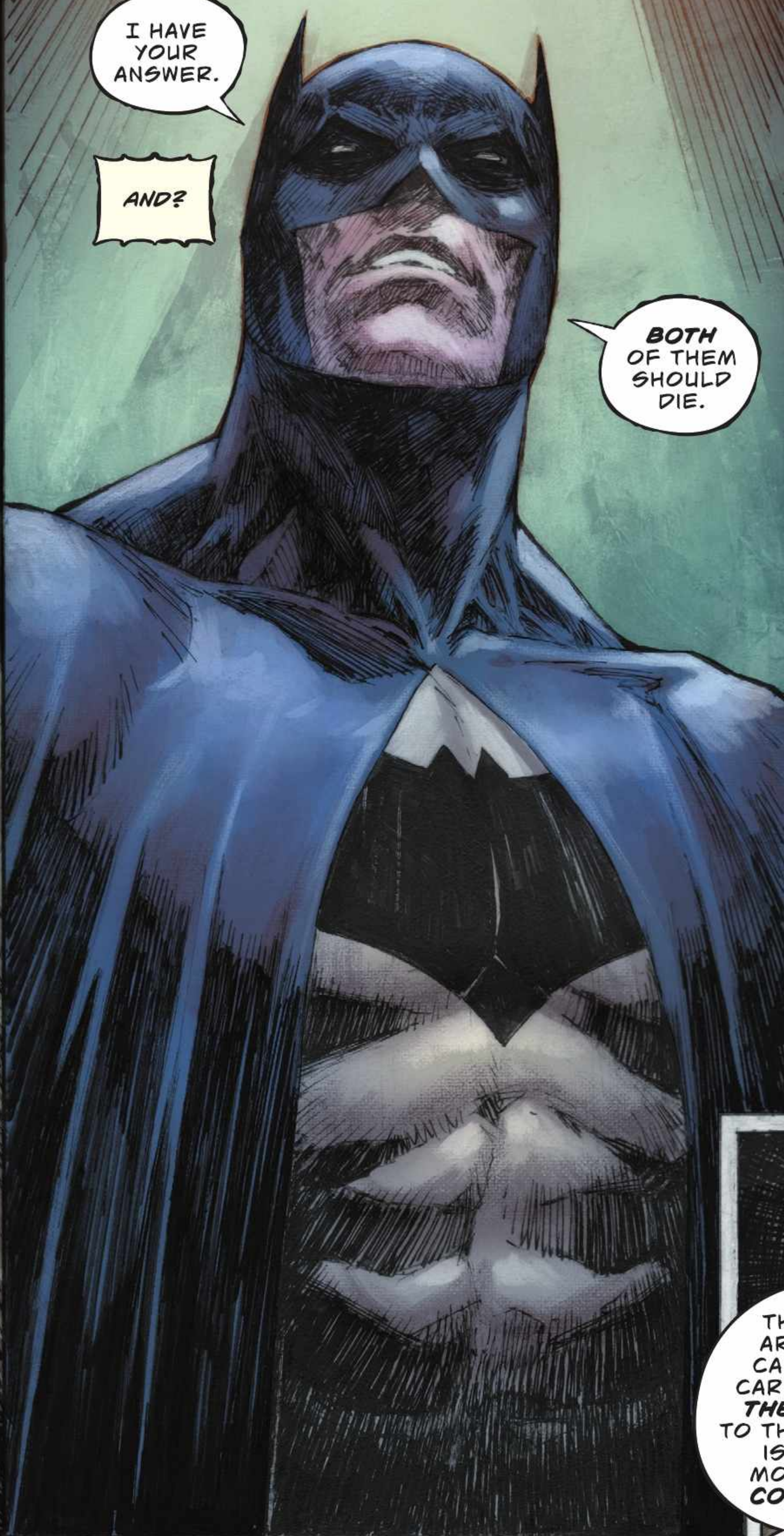
TEN SECONDS.

FIVE SECONDS... FOUR--

I HAVE YOUR ANSWER.

AND?

BOTH OF THEM SHOULD DIE.



WHAT?

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR GODDAMNED MIND?

INTERESTING, DETECTIVE. WHY?

THE TRANSPARENT WALLS ARE TWO INCHES THICK...MULTIPLE LAYERS OF **POLYCARBONATE**...

...LEVEL 7 BALLISTIC PROTECTION AT MINIMUM.

I HAVE ENOUGH LINE...IF THIS GOES SOUTH, I CAN SAVE THEM **BOTH**.

THE GREYS ARE A LOST CAUSE. THEY CARE ONLY FOR **THEMSELVES**. TO THEM, THOMAS IS NOTHING MORE THAN A **COMMODITY**.

THE BOY'S ONLY CHANCE AT A HAPPY LIFE IS WITH HIS **AUNT**.





BRavo, DETECTIVE, BRavo. YOUR CONCERN WAS FOR THE CHILD'S WELL-BEING. YOU CHOSE CORRECTLY.

THEN YOU'LL HONOR THE DEAL.

WHAT DEAL?

THAT IF I CHOSE CORRECTLY, YOU WOULD SPARE THE GREYS AND THEIR SON.

OH, BATMAN...

...THAT DEAL WAS WITH THE JOKER...NOT YOU.

YOU OFFERED TO SOLVE THE PUZZLE. I WAS SIMPLY CURIOUS TO SEE IF YOU COULD.

THE GREYS WERE DEAD THE MOMENT THE JOKER FAILED TO SHOW.



OH MY GOD!



KRIK



SPAKT



DID YOU REALLY THINK IT WOULD BE SO EASY?

THAT YOU COULD SIMPLY STEP INTO MY WORLD AND WRITE YOUR OWN RULES?

KRAKK

EEEEEEEE!

IT'S BELIEVED EINSTEIN ONCE SAID: "THE ONLY THING MORE DANGEROUS THAN IGNORANCE IS ARROGANCE."



YOU ARROGANTLY PRESUMED YOU COULD COME HERE AND CLAIM VICTORY, SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU ARE THE BATMAN.

KRAKK



BUT IN REALITY, YOUR ARROGANCE JUST COST TWO PEOPLE THEIR LIVES.

KRAKK



I WILL SPARE THE BOY, DETECTIVE. I AM, AFTER ALL, NOT A MONSTER.

AND REALLY, HASN'T HE SUFFERED ENOUGH BECAUSE OF YOUR HUBRIS?

I DO, HOWEVER, PITY YOUNG THOMAS.

THE PASSING OF YEARS MAY EASE THE PAIN OF LOSING HIS PARENTS. AND PERHAPS THE THOUGHT OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN WILL FADE.

TIME WILL TELL.

GO HOME, BATMAN.

I'LL BE IN TOUCH.



Nooooo!



ALFRED,
THE PLAYBACK
VERIFIES ALL
OF THIS?

INDEED,
MASTER BRUCE.
SURVEILLANCE
FOOTAGE REVEALED THAT
THE **ORIGINAL** TISSUE
SAMPLE WE REMOVED
FROM YOUR SHOULDER,
HAD A RATHER ALARMING
GROWTH SPURT AND NEARLY
DOUBLED ITS SIZE.
IT THEN BROKE FREE OF
ITS GLASS CONTAINER,
AND FELL TO
THE FLOOR.

APPARENTLY
ONE OF THE LOCAL
BATS THOUGHT TO
MAKE A MEAL OF
IT. **THIS** IS THE
RESULT. POOR
DEVIL.

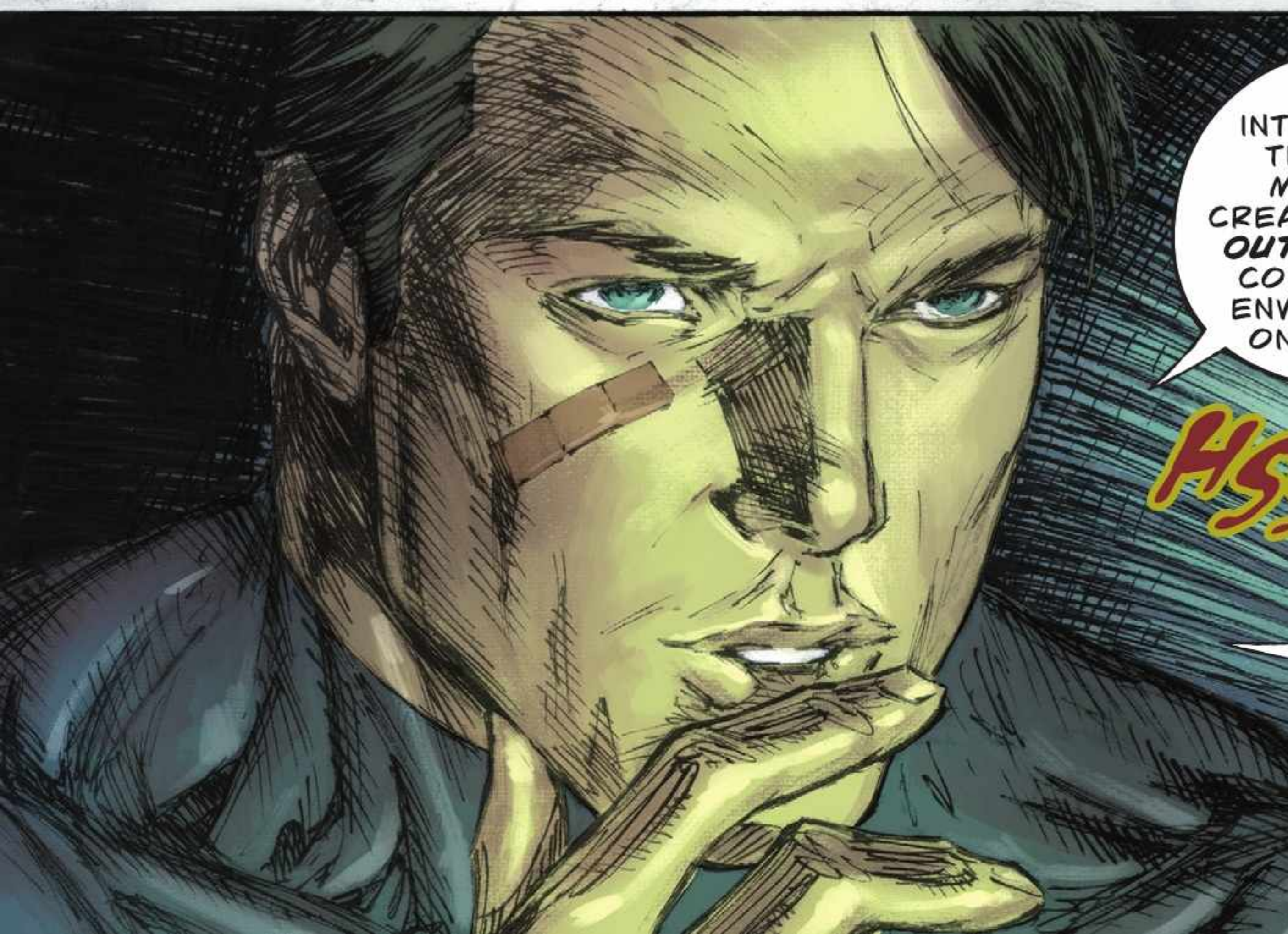
SCREEEEEE



YEAH, WE FOUND THE
LITTLE MONSTER HIDING
BEHIND A PIECE OF HEAVY
MACHINERY. WHATEVER
THIS **THING** IS, IT WAS
STRONG ENOUGH TO
MOVE IT.

FASCINATING. IT LOOKS TO BE THE
SAME FUSION OF ORGANIC AND
SYNTHETIC DNA THAT WE SAW EARLIER.
BUT IN THIS CASE, THERE'S THE ADDED
NONHUMAN COMPONENT.

AND
JUDGING BY
ITS GHASTLY
APPEARANCE,
I'D SAY A GOOD
PORTION OF **THE
JOKER** REMAINS
PRESENT.



YES.
INTERESTING
THAT THIS
MUTATION
CREATED ITSELF
OUTSIDE OF A
CONTROLLED
ENVIRONMENT,
ON ITS OWN.

HSSSSSSSSSS

WE NEED
TO TAKE A
CLOSER
LOOK.



THERE'S NOTHING IN THE WORLD SCIENCE DATABASE THAT HAS ANYTHING EVEN CLOSE TO WHAT WE'RE SEEING HERE.

IT SEEMS THAT ONCE THE ORGANISM ENTERS THE HOST, ITS **NEW** GENETIC INFORMATION IS **ADDED** TO THE **EXISTING** DNA MARKERS. THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE **MUTATES**, RESULTING IN A **NEW** ENTITY.

I SHUDDER TO THINK OF WHAT **HORRORS** COULD SPAWN FROM **THAT** SCENARIO.

COMPUTER, CHARACTERIZE **RESTRUCTURED** SYNTHETIC COMPONENT.

Synthetic component remains a bonding element enhancing strength and replication. The result is a strong yet unstable organic/artificial cell hybrid.



CLARIFY "UNSTABLE."



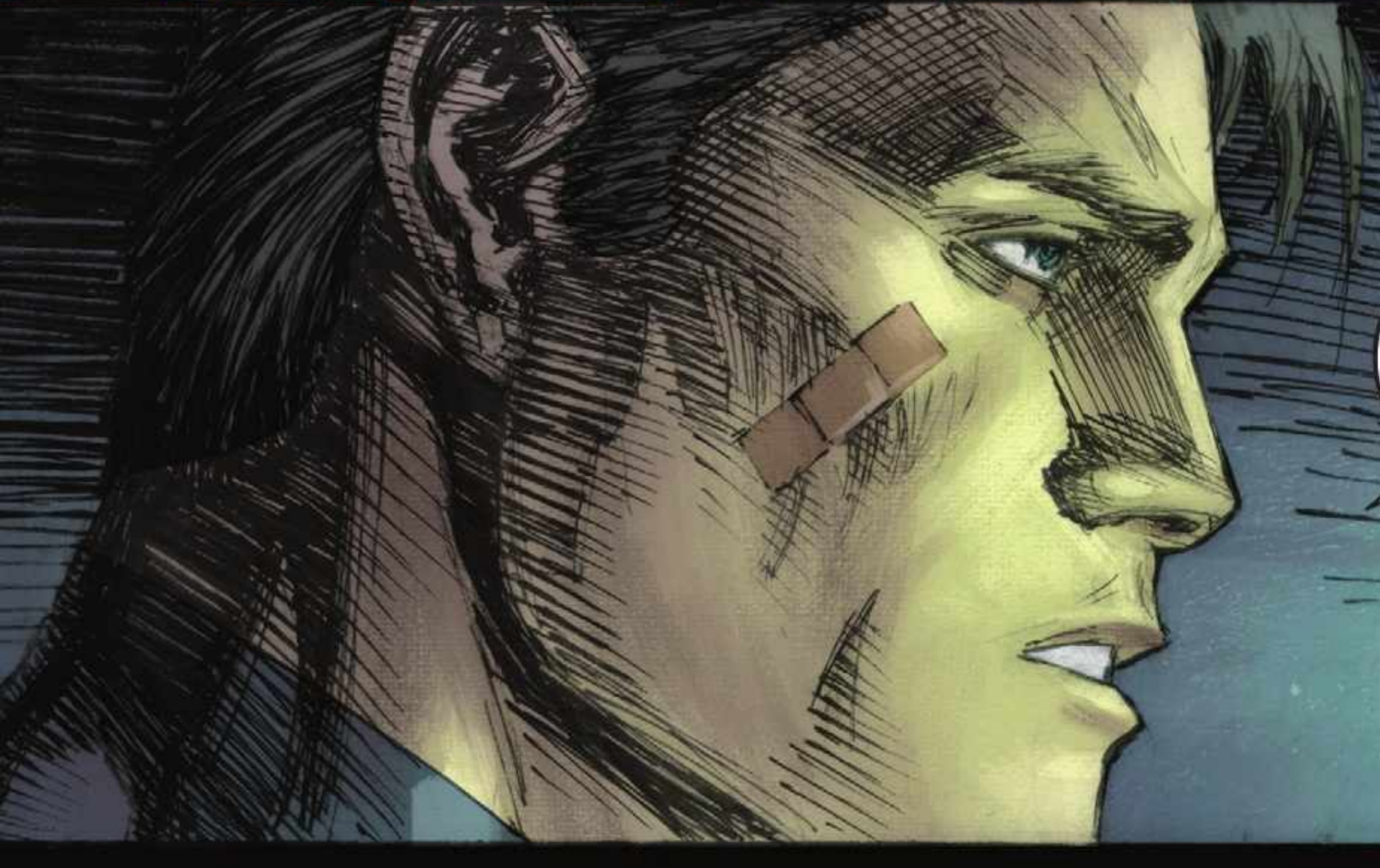
The hybrid cell requires a constant supply of energy at levels that are unsustainable.



Deprived of food, the strongest cells will feed on the weakest, resulting in rapid and catastrophic retrogression within the entire organism.



THE ANESTHETIC SHOULD BE IN FULL EFFECT.



CAREFUL, MASTER BRUCE.

NOT MY FIRST TIME ON THE "HANDS," ALFRED. TRY AND STAY FOCUSED.



YES, SIR...OF COURSE.

HEY, BRUCE,
SORRY TO
INTERRUPT YOU
BEING A
JERK...

...BUT
OUR NEW
FRIEND ISN'T
LOOKING SO
GOOD.

IF MY ANALYSIS IS CORRECT,
THE TEETH YOU PULLED FROM MY
SHOULDER ARE USING THEIR NEW
HOST AS A FOOD SUPPLY, BASICALLY
CANNIBALIZING ITSELF
TO SURVIVE.

SO YOU'RE
SAYING THAT IT'S **NOT**
THE **BAT** THAT ATE
THE **TEETH**...IT'S THE
TEETH THAT ATE
THE **BAT**?

ESSENTIALLY,
YES...

...ONCE THE BAT
INGESTED THEM,
THE PREY BECAME
THE PREDATOR.

AS I THOUGHT...
EVEN A **SMALL** PIECE OF
THIS ORGANISM CARRIES
THE REQUIRED INTERNAL
STRUCTURE TO
RECOGNIZE, SEIZE, AND
INGEST FOOD.

PROBABLY
A GOOD
THING WE
GOT IT OUT
OF **YOU**,
THEN.

I THINK
IT KNOWS A
PART OF IT
JUST GOT
A MEAL.

IT APPEARS
TO STILL HAVE SOME
SORT OF **COGNITIVE**
CONNECTION TO THE
PIECE THAT WAS
REMOVED.

NOT TO SOUND
OVERLY GRIM, BUT
THIS WHOLE
SITUATION SEEMS TO
HAVE GOTTEN JUST A
TAD WORSE.

YES...AND CREATING
THIS WOULD REQUIRE
A VAST KNOWLEDGE OF
BIOENGINEERING, MOLECULAR
ENGINEERING, SYNTHETIC
CHEMISTRY, AND NUMEROUS
OTHER SCIENTIFIC
DISCIPLINES.

QUITE A
NARROW
FIELD,
SIR.

VERY.
BUT I THINK
I KNOW JUST
THE MAN TO
ASK...

COMPUTER,
ACCESS THE
DATA ARCHIVE
FOR **SIMTEK**
INDUSTRIES.



"...US GROWN-UPS
GOT DETECTIVE
STUFF TO DO."





WELCOME HOME.



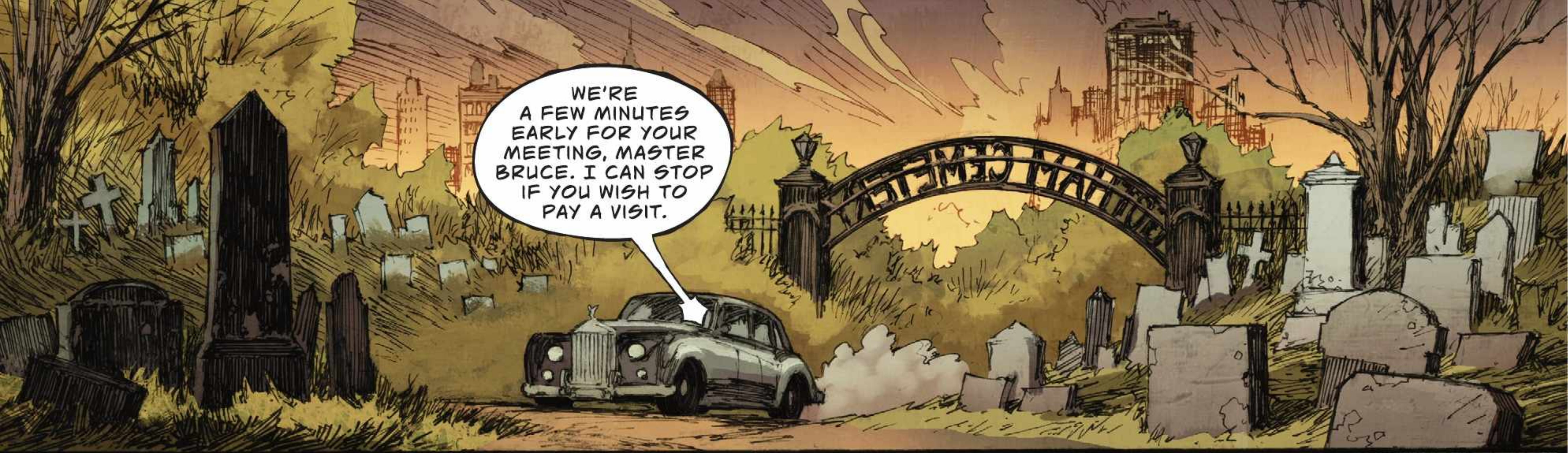
MIND THE HAIR...



...THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL OCCASION...



...AND WE MUST ALL LOOK OUR BEST.



WE'RE
A FEW MINUTES
EARLY FOR YOUR
MEETING, MASTER
BRUCE. I CAN STOP
IF YOU WISH TO
PAY A VISIT.



NOT
TODAY,
ALFRED,
THANK
YOU.

WHEN I WAS
YOUNG, I WOULD
COME HERE TO
GRIEVE... TO SIT
IN MY SADNESS...



NOW WHEN
I COME
HERE...

...IT'S TO REMIND
MYSELF OF MY
PURPOSE.

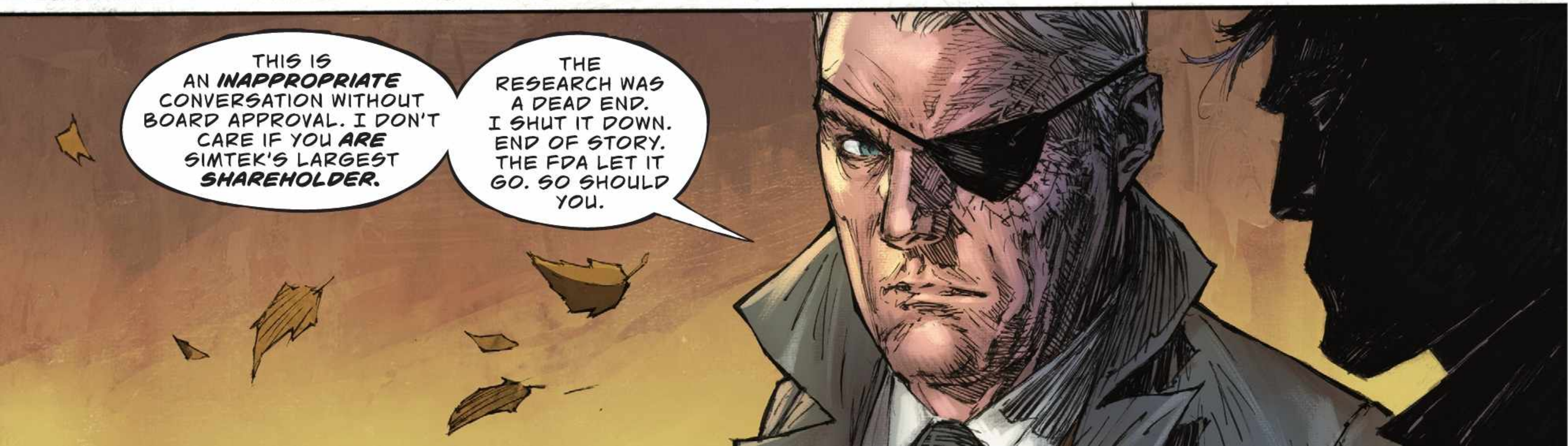


SHE
WAS AN
AMAZING
YOUNG
WOMAN,
DONALD.
I--



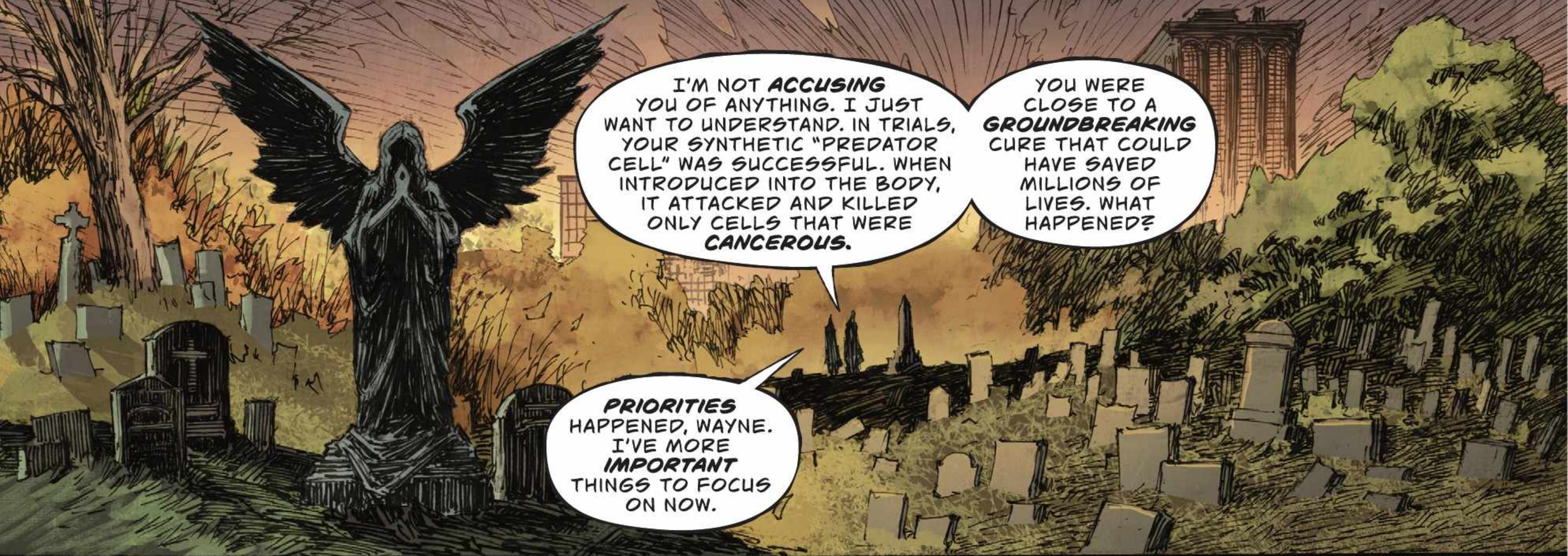
MY
DAUGHTER WAS
MORE THAN THAT,
WAYNE... SHE WAS
MY LIFE. WHAT DO
YOU WANT?

I WANT
TO TALK ABOUT
SIMTEK'S **STEM**
CELL RESEARCH.
YOUR FINDINGS
SHOWED A LOT
OF PROMISE.
WHY DID YOU
STOP?



THIS IS
AN **INAPPROPRIATE**
CONVERSATION WITHOUT
BOARD APPROVAL. I DON'T
CARE IF YOU **ARE**
SIMTEK'S LARGEST
SHAREHOLDER.

THE
RESEARCH WAS
A DEAD END.
I SHUT IT DOWN.
END OF STORY.
THE FDA LET IT
GO. SO SHOULD
YOU.



I'M NOT **ACCUSING** YOU OF ANYTHING. I JUST WANT TO UNDERSTAND. IN TRIALS, YOUR SYNTHETIC "PREDATOR CELL" WAS SUCCESSFUL. WHEN INTRODUCED INTO THE BODY, IT ATTACKED AND KILLED ONLY CELLS THAT WERE **CANCEROUS**.

YOU WERE CLOSE TO A **GROUNDBREAKING** CURE THAT COULD HAVE SAVED MILLIONS OF LIVES. WHAT HAPPENED?

PRIORITIES HAPPENED, WAYNE. I'VE MORE **IMPORTANT** THINGS TO FOCUS ON NOW.



LIKE **REVENGE**?

CALL IT WHAT YOU WILL.

WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY WAS **TRAGIC**, DONALD, AND I'M SORRY.

BUT MAKING **REVENGE** A PRIORITY DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE MAN I ONCE KNEW.



THAT MAN WAS A **FOOL**. LOOK AT ME AND TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE. A RUINED FACE? A MISSING EYE?

YOU **REALLY** WANT TO SEE THE MAN I AM **NOW**?

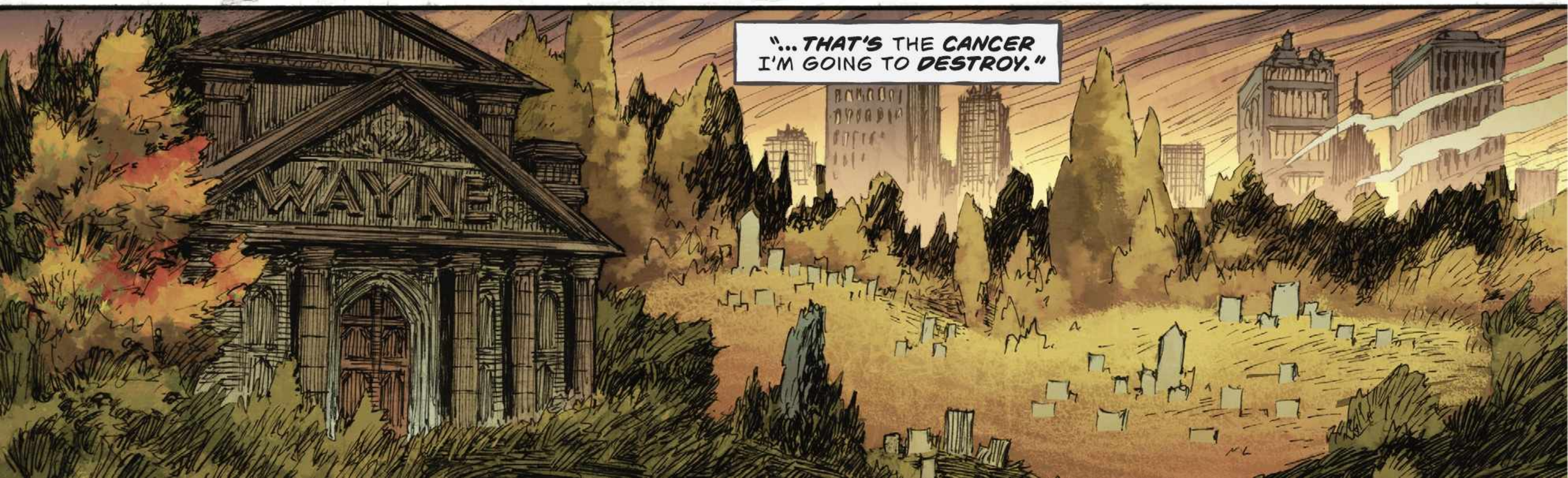


LOOK THERE... UNDER THE GRASS...THE ROCKS...THE DIRT...

...BECAUSE **THAT'S** WHERE I AM...PUT THERE BY SCUM LIKE THE JOKER, THE POLICE AND GOTHAM'S SO-CALLED "PROTECTOR", **BATMAN**...



... **THAT** SCUM IS THE **CANCER** I'M FIGHTING **NOW**. AND I SWEAR ON MY DAUGHTER'S GRAVE...



"... **THAT'S** THE **CANCER** I'M GOING TO **DESTROY**."



ALFRED.

YES,
MASTER
BRUCE?



MOVE THE
JOKER INTO THE
INTERROGATION
ROOM.

Hello,
Batman.
Your new
partner has
a train to
catch. Make
sure he
isn't late.

RIGHT
AWAY,
SIR.



AND ALFRED,
DEACTIVATE ALL
THE CAMERAS AND
RECORDERS.

SIR?

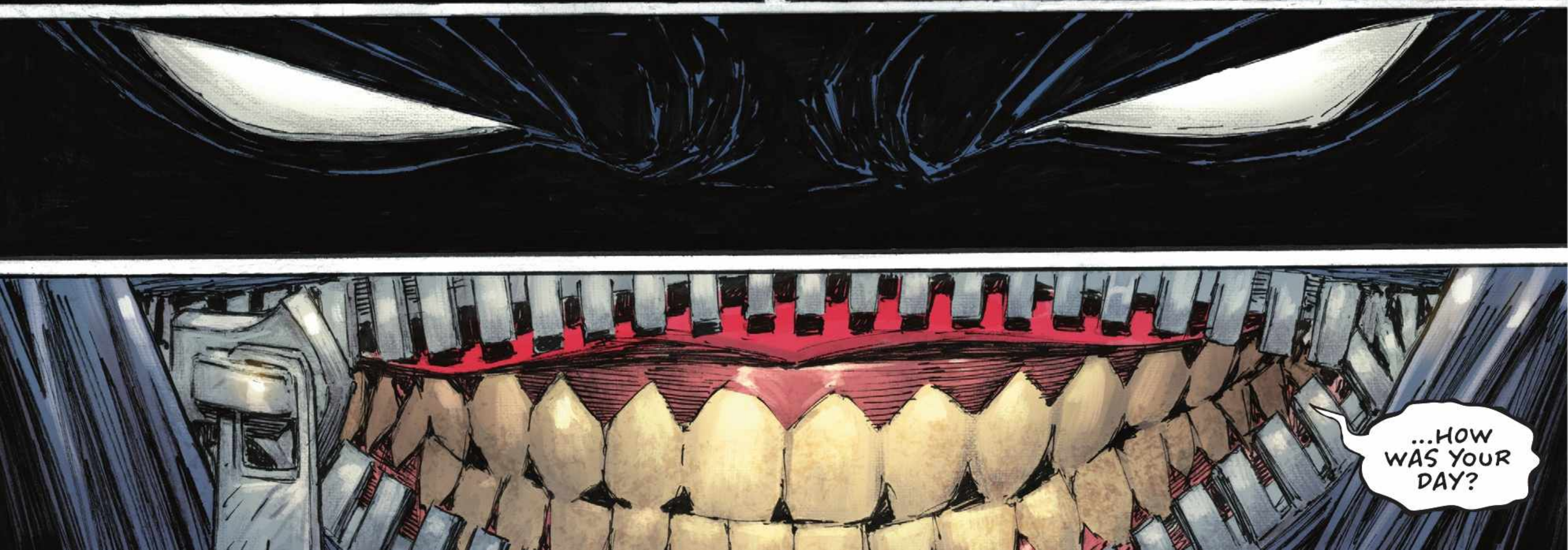
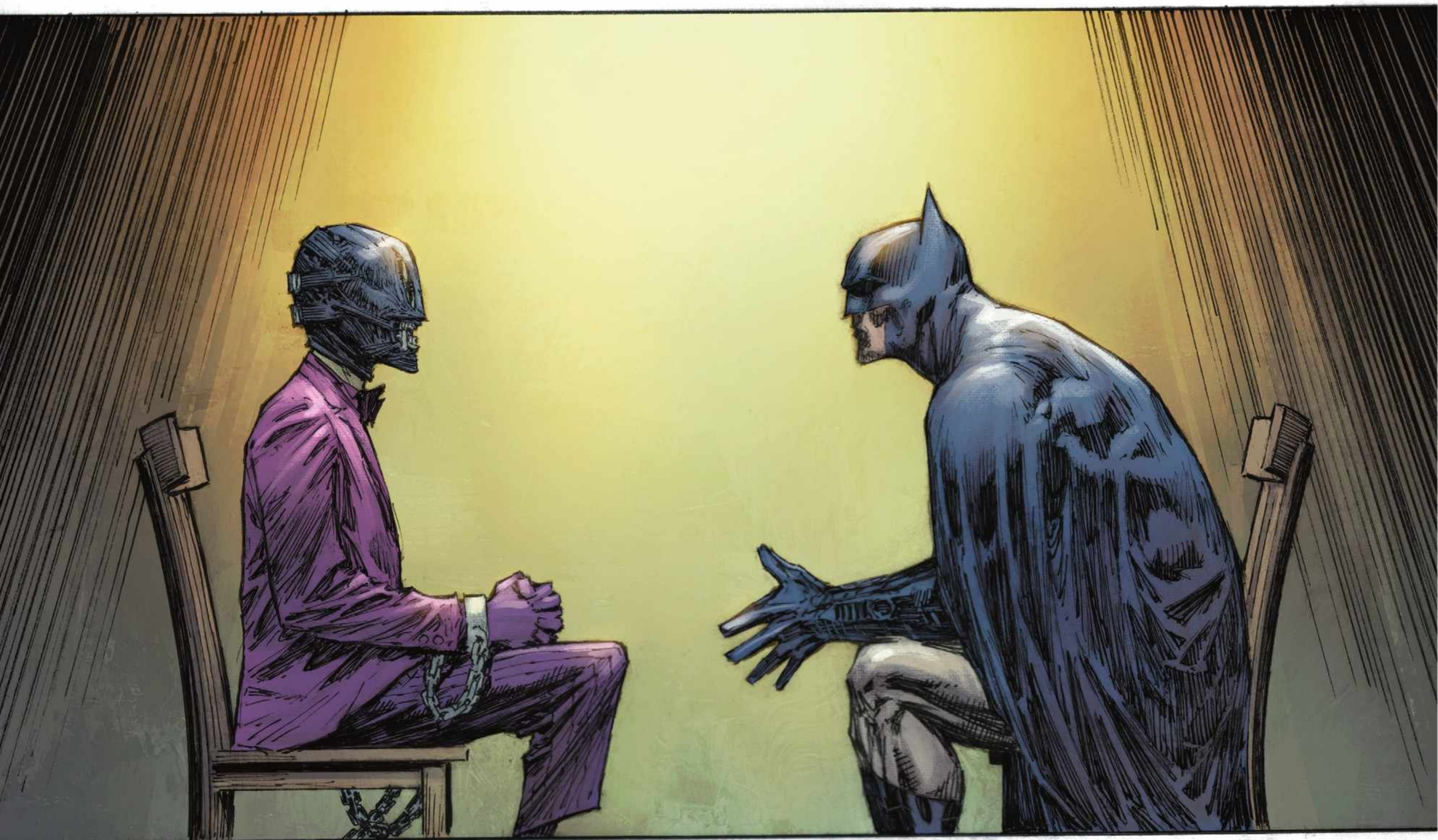
YOU
HEARD
ME.

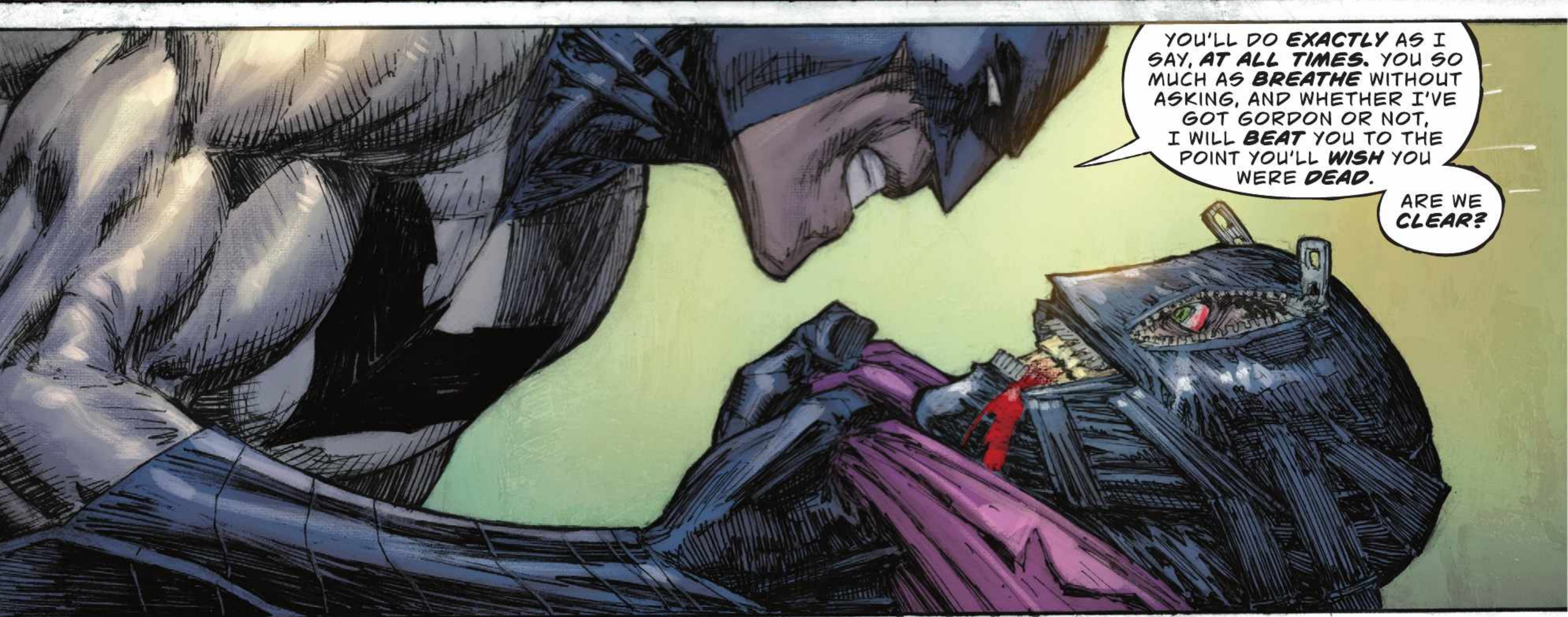
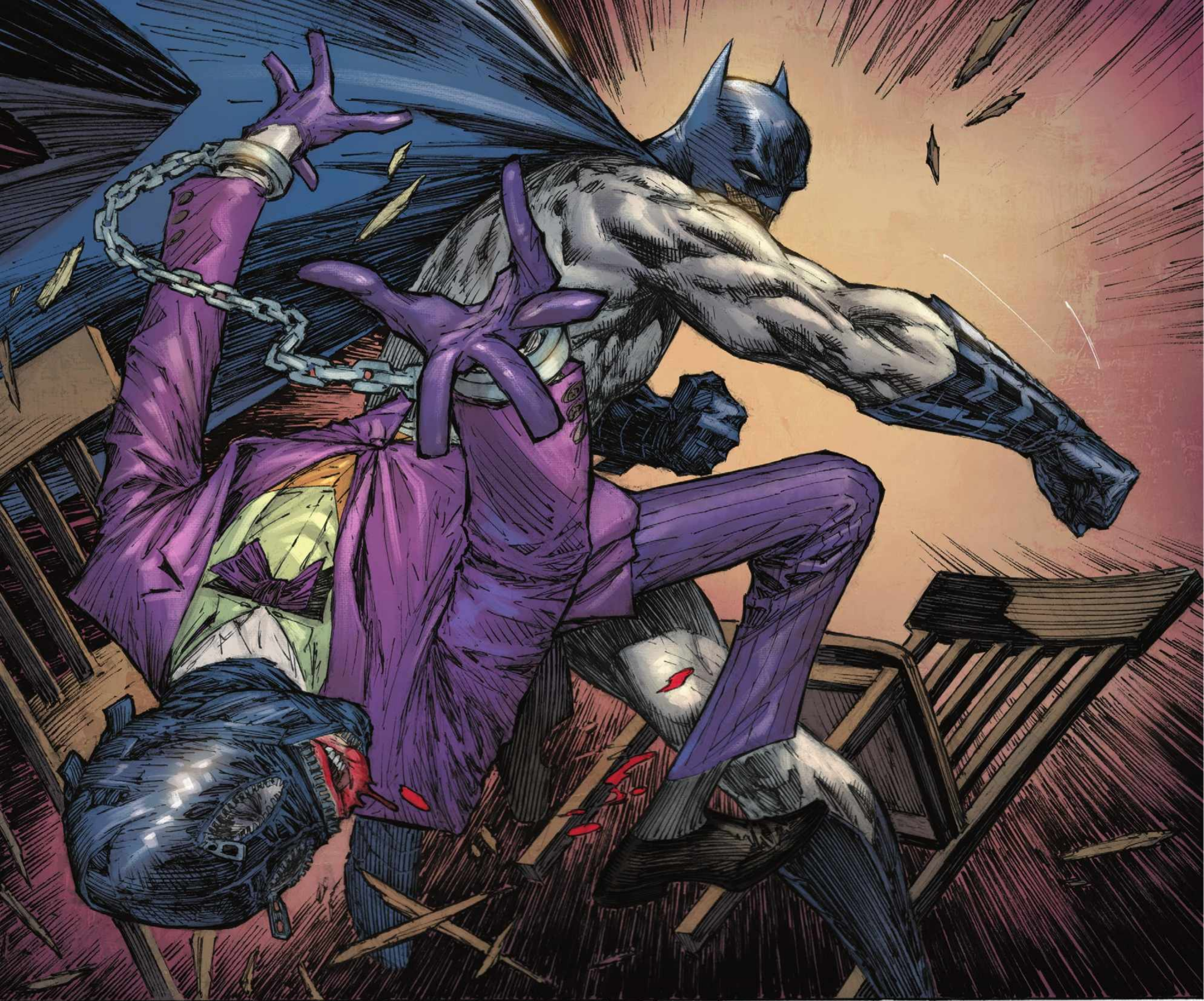


...MASTER
BRUCE...IF I
MAY...ARE YOU
ALL RI--

JUST
DO IT,
ALFRED...

...I'M
FINE.





YOU'LL DO EXACTLY AS I SAY, AT ALL TIMES. YOU SO MUCH AS **BREATHE** WITHOUT ASKING, AND WHETHER I'VE GOT GORDON OR NOT, I WILL **BEAT** YOU TO THE POINT YOU'LL **WISH** YOU WERE **DEAD**.

ARE WE **CLEAR?**



THAT'S A **HARD-CORE** TEN-FOUR, GOOD BUDDY!

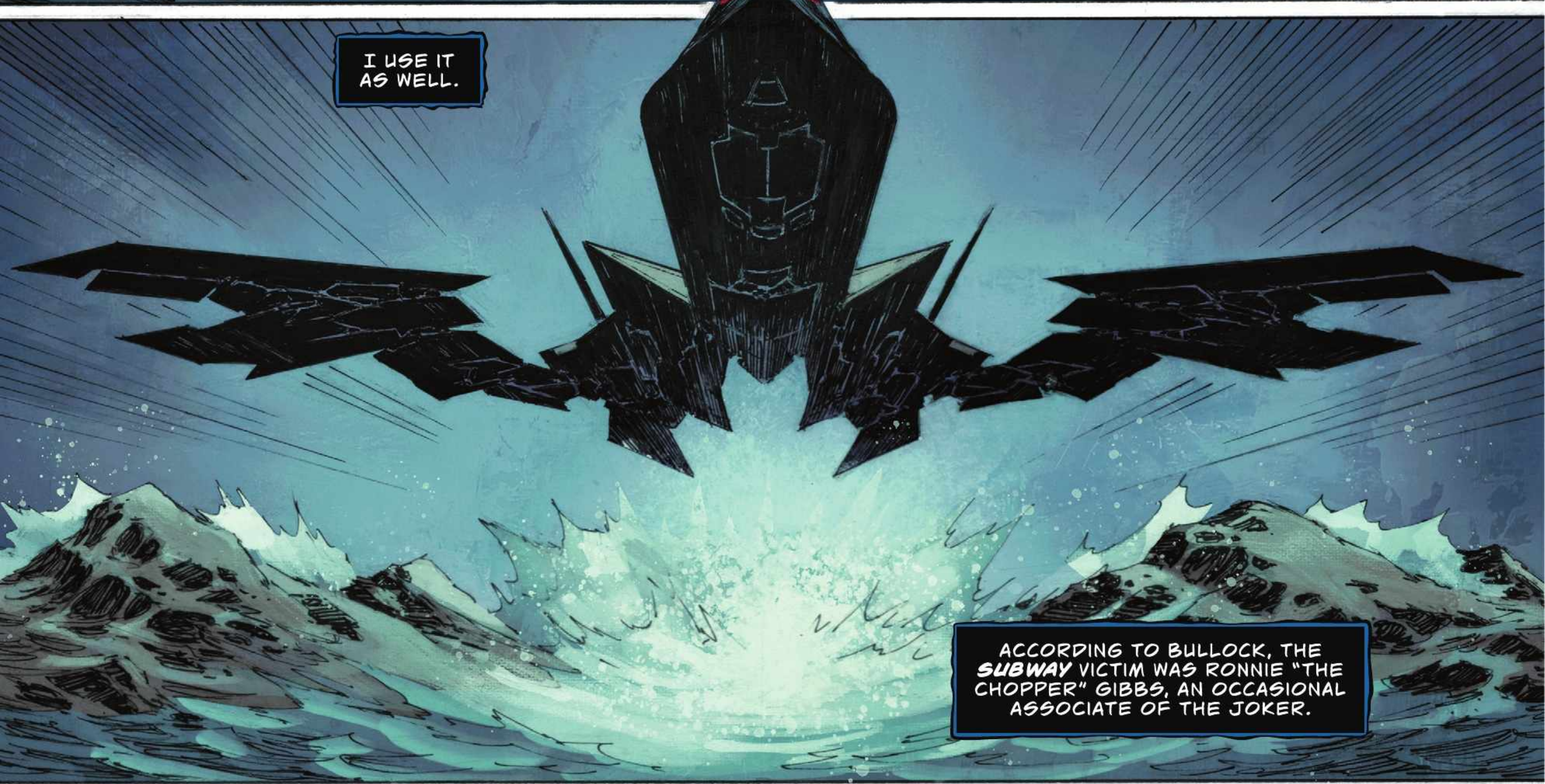
HEEHEEHEE...

...THIS IS GONNA BE SO **AWESOME!**



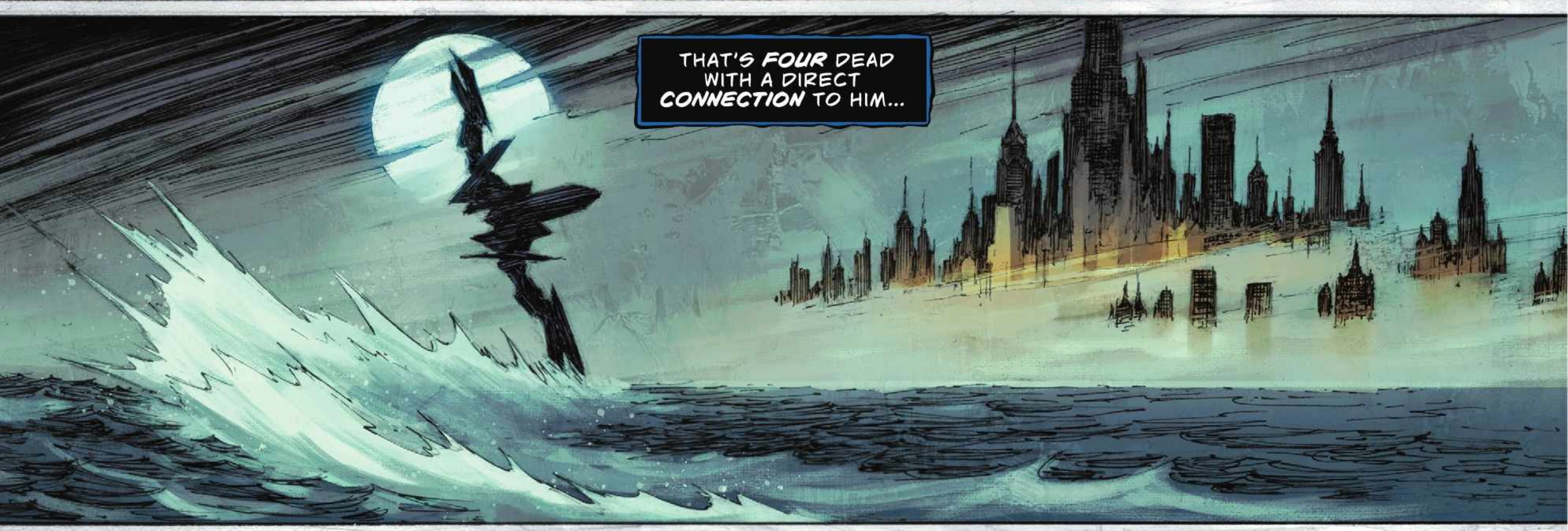
THERE'S A CAVE ON THE SOUTH-FACING CLIFFS OF THE WAYNE ESTATE. ITS ENTRANCE IS HIDDEN BY A PROJECTED IMAGE OF SOLID ROCK.

THIS ALLOWS THE BATS THAT CALL THE **BATCAVE** HOME TO COME AND GO AS THEY PLEASE.



I USE IT AS WELL.

ACCORDING TO BULLOCK, THE **SUBWAY** VICTIM WAS RONNIE "THE CHOPPER" GIBBS, AN OCCASIONAL ASSOCIATE OF THE JOKER.



THAT'S **FOUR** DEAD WITH A DIRECT CONNECTION TO HIM...

...WITH THE TWO MURDERED COPS BRINGING THE TOTAL TO **SIX**. ALL OF THEM ARE TIED TOGETHER BY A COMMON EVENT...



...AN EVENT ALSO TIED TO **DONALD SIMMS**.



SIMMS HAS THE TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO CREATE THE **CREATURES** TERRORIZING GOTHAM AS WELL AS A DEEP HATRED FOR THE JOKER, THE POLICE, AND BATMAN...

...IN HIS MIND WE'RE ALL **EQUALLY** TO BLAME FOR HIS DAUGHTER'S **DEATH**.

SIMTEK'S DATABASE REVEALED ASPECTS OF HIS RESEARCH THAT WERE PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN. SOME OF WHAT I FOUND WOULD EXPLAIN WHY SIMMS WAS EVASIVE AND ANGRY AT THE CEMETERY.

BUT THERE'S VITAL INFORMATION HIDDEN BEHIND A FIREWALL THAT CAN'T BE ACCESSED REMOTELY.

I'VE ENLISTED THE HELP OF SOMEONE THAT CAN GET THAT INFORMATION AT THE SOURCE.

HOWEVER, MY MAIN CONCERN AT THE MOMENT IS **JIM GORDON**. I'M HERE BECAUSE HE'S IN DANGER.

THROUGH VARIOUS SOURCES, I HAVE ACCESS TO **EXOTIC SERUMS** THAT--WHEN COMBINED WITH SPECIFIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROMPTS--PRACTICALLY GUARANTEE A **CONFESSION**...

THE JOKER'S TAKEN EXTREME MEASURES TO HIDE GORDON'S LOCATION. EVEN FROM **HIMSELF**.

HE ISN'T LYING. HE **DOESN'T** KNOW WHERE GORDON IS.

GORDON HAS BEEN **CAPTURED** AND IS BEING **TORTURED** BECAUSE OF HIS CONNECTION TO ME.

I'M GOING TO FIND HIM BY **ANY** MEANS NECESSARY, BECAUSE JIM'S A GOOD MAN...

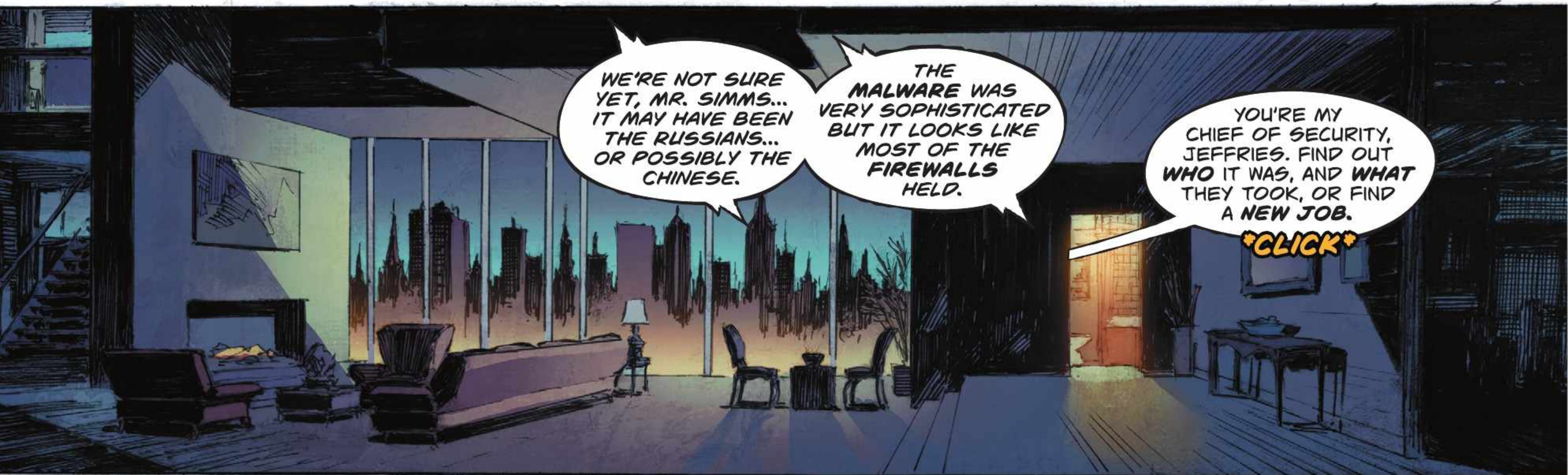


...AND HE'S
MY FRIEND.



WHAT
THE HELL
DO YOU MEAN
SOMEBODY
GOT IN?

WHO?



WE'RE NOT SURE
YET, MR. SIMMS...
IT MAY HAVE BEEN
THE RUSSIANS...
OR POSSIBLY THE
CHINESE.

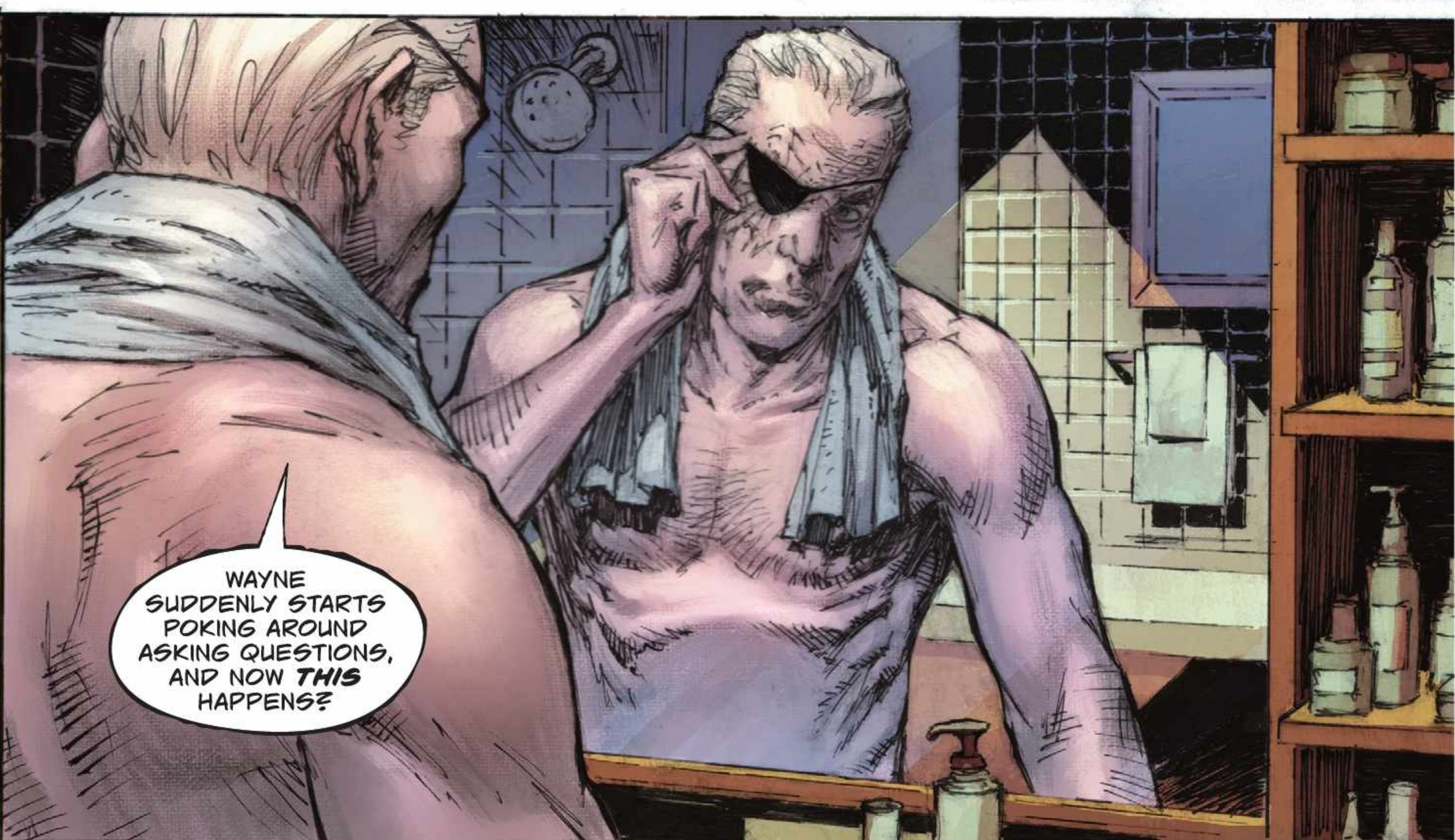
THE
MALWARE WAS
VERY SOPHISTICATED
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE
MOST OF THE
FIREWALLS
HELD.

YOU'RE MY
CHIEF OF SECURITY,
JEFFRIES. FIND OUT
WHO IT WAS, AND WHAT
THEY TOOK, OR FIND
A NEW JOB.

CLICK



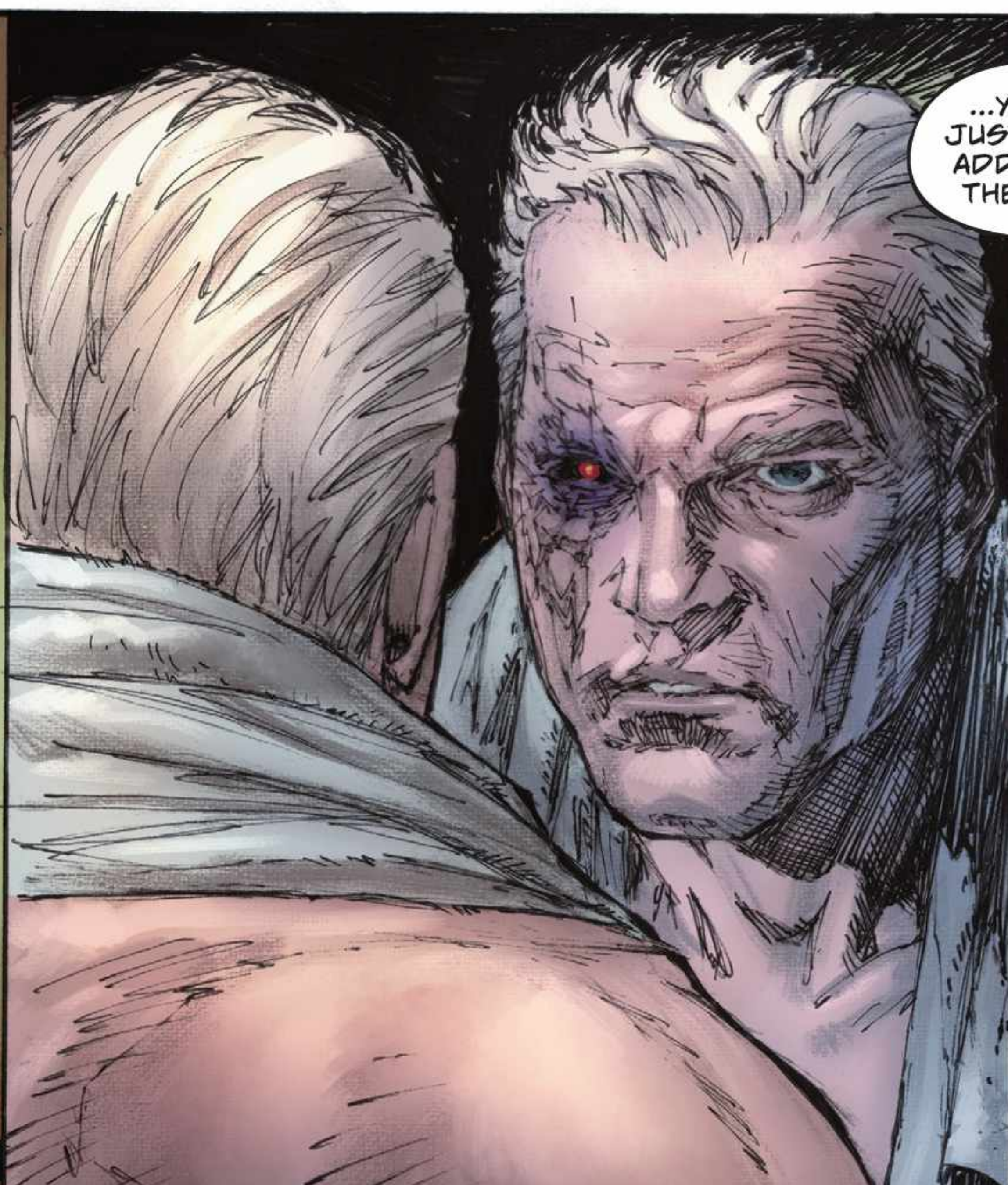
RUSSIANS
OR CHINESE,
MY ASS.



WAYNE
SUDDENLY STARTS
POKING AROUND
ASKING QUESTIONS,
AND NOW **THIS**
HAPPENS?



WELL,
CONGRATULATIONS,
BRUCE...



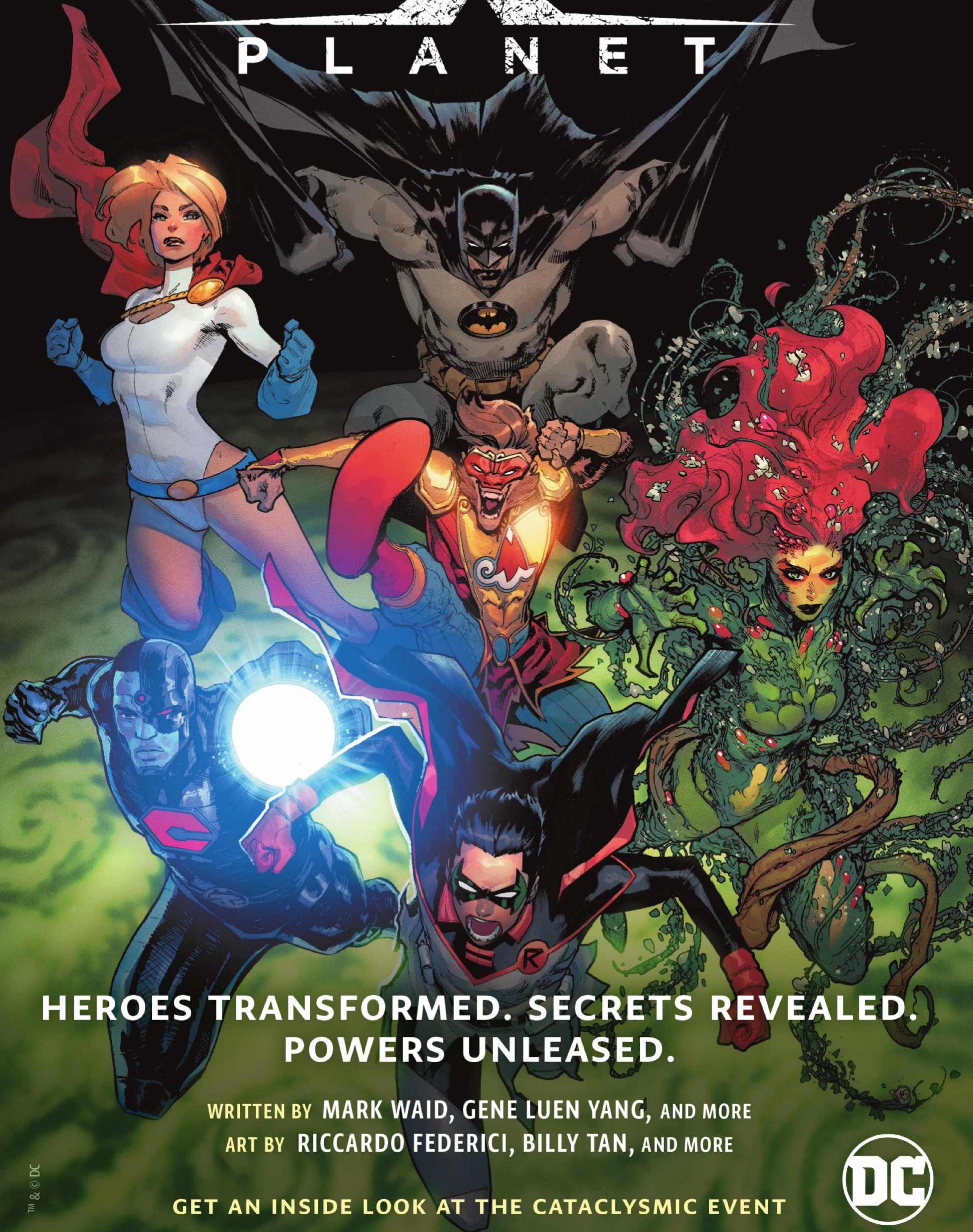
...YOU'VE
JUST BEEN
ADDED TO
THE LIST.



TO BE CONTINUED...

DC NATION SPECIAL EDITION

DC UNIVERSE
LAZARUS
PLANET



**HEROES TRANSFORMED. SECRETS REVEALED.
POWERS UNLEASHED.**

WRITTEN BY MARK WAID, GENE LUEN YANG, AND MORE
ART BY RICCARDO FEDERICI, BILLY TAN, AND MORE

GET AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE CATAclySMIC EVENT



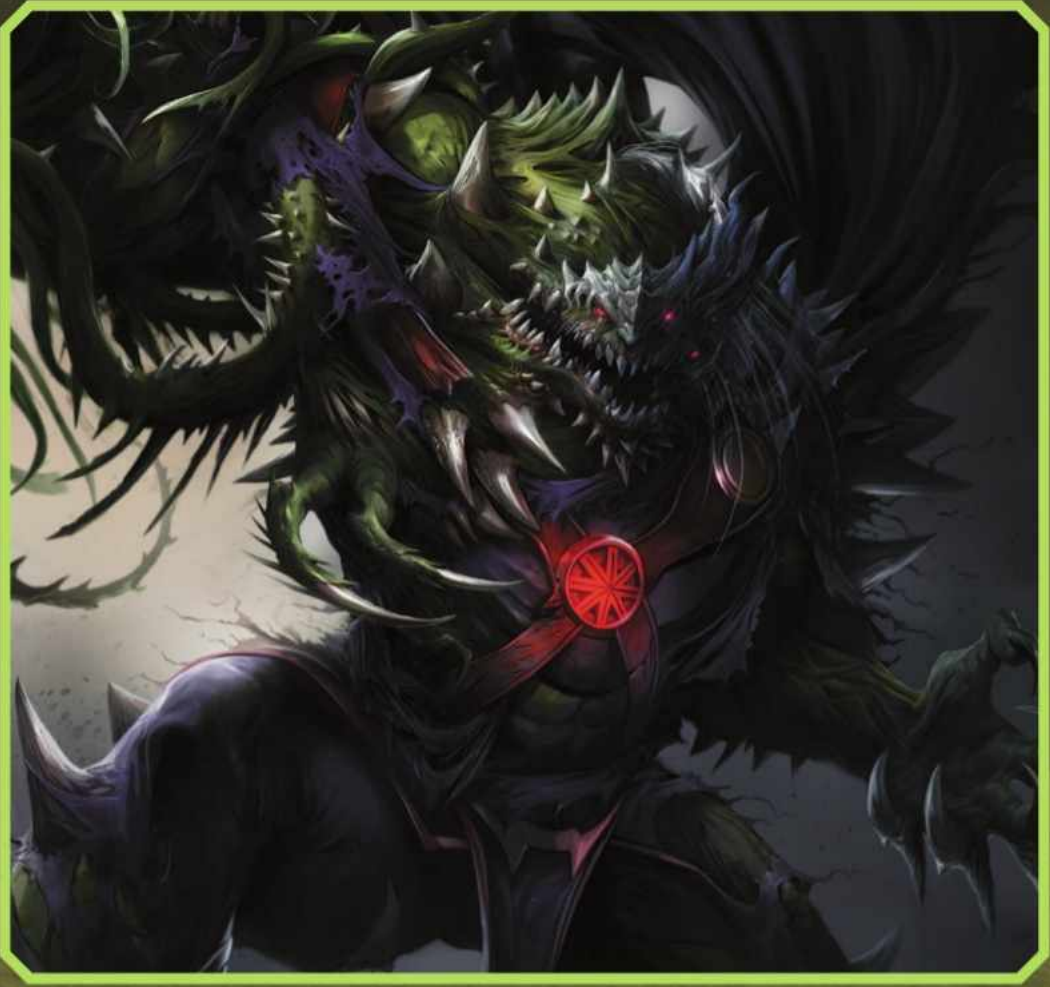
“NEW HEROES WILL BE BORN AND EXISTING HEROES’ POWERS WILL BE CHANGED FOREVER.”

In the climax of December’s *Batman vs. Robin* #4, a Lazarus Volcano erupts, spewing dangerous and transformative chemicals into Earth’s atmosphere.

“That much magic can’t be contained—so when it erupts it spews out Lazarus Resin and creates a violent ‘rainstorm’ that covers the world,” explains Mark Waid, the superstar writer and architect of the DC Universe: Lazarus Planet event.

Waid has been no stranger to the DC Universe this past year, penning the bestselling series *Batman/Superman: World’s Finest* and *Batman vs. Robin*, which set the stage for this event, beginning in January’s *Lazarus Planet: Alpha* #1.

“In *Batman/Superman: World’s Finest*, we introduced the Devil Nezha, an ancient evil that could be contained only within the tomb on a remote island,” Waid says. “Once our heroes sealed him inside, we sprung the surprise reveal—the tomb is on Lazarus Island. Then in *Batman vs. Robin*, we learn that Mother Soul, Damian’s great-grandmother on his al Ghul side, has been searching for Nezha and used Damian to unleash him once more.”



“NEZHA IS A TRICKSTER GOD WHO OFTEN DANCES ON THAT LINE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL.”

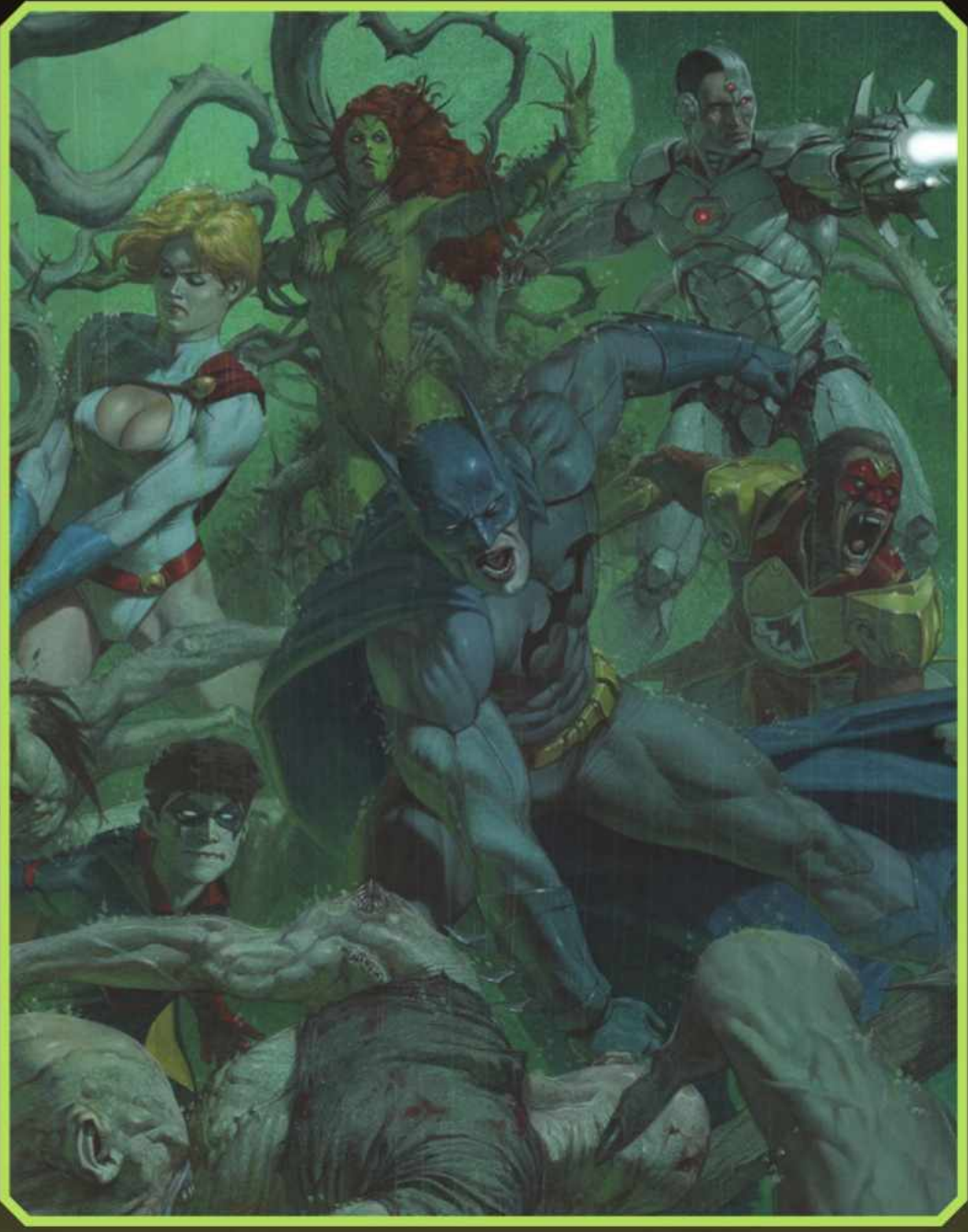
Helping craft the two-month Lazarus Planet event alongside Waid will be *Monkey Prince* writer Gene Luen Yang. “Traditionally, Nezha is a trickster god who often dances on that line between good and evil,” Yang says. “In *Batman/Superman: World’s Finest*, Mark brought him into the DC Universe and specifically tied him into elements of the Batman mythos.”



The Lazarus Volcano will make its rumblings known throughout the DC Universe in a series of one-shots helmed by all-star talent, including Francis Manapul, Phillip Kennedy Johnson, Leah Williams, Max Dunbar, Clayton Henry, Tim Seeley, and Marguerite Sauvage. Fan-favorite heroes throughout the DC Universe will be heavily invested in uncovering the secrets behind the Lazarus Resin.

“Power Girl is part of the team that tries to free Earth’s magical artifacts from the Tower of Fate, where Nezha has imprisoned them,” Waid explains. “Poison Ivy, on the other hand, is part of the team exploring one of Ra’s al Ghul’s mountain headquarters looking for clues to counteract the resin. Ra’s was aware of her background as a brilliant biochemist who, like him, is eager to reestablish a working ecosystem before our planet succumbs to global war.”

“THE WRITERS AND ARTISTS ARE EMBRACING THAT FREEDOM TO DO SOME OF THE BEST WORK...”



“The writers and artists are embracing that freedom to do some of the best work I’ve seen in a long time,” Waid continues. “Everyone’s been incredibly cooperative and willing to toss ideas back and forth to make their own stories even better.”

The full scope of the story starts out in *Lazarus Planet: Alpha* and continues in the one-shot tie-ins *Lazarus Planet: Assault on Krypton*, *Lazarus Planet: We Were Once Gods*, *Lazarus Planet: Dark Fate*, *Lazarus Planet: Next Evolution*, and *Lazarus Planet: Legends Reborn*—all leading to the fateful finale in *Lazarus Planet: Omega* and the aftermath in *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods*.



After the events of Lazarus Planet, the gods of the Multiverse decide to take down the heroes they once called champions and the world they’ve sworn to protect.

The team of gods is led by Earth-0’s wizard Shazam, who has been granted a vision from the Lazarus Resin the likes of which he has never seen before.

As if major changes to existing heroes and the introduction of all-new ones weren’t enough, Lazarus Planet has a ton of surprises in store for even the most hardcore DC fan. “There’s a fusion of Cyborg and Blue Beetle, a key role for Blue Devil, the mightiest bolt of Shazam lightning in history, Swamp Thing vs. Nezha, and a really, really, really ugly turn for Batman,” Waid teases.

“Mark’s premise for Lazarus Planet is so fun, the rest of us can’t help but respond with all the creativity we can muster,” Yang says. “Even as a fan, I can’t wait to read what everyone’s come up with.”





LAZARUS RAINS DOWN!



LAZARUS PLANET: ASSAULT ON KRYPTON

Written by: Nicole Maines, C.S. Pacat, Frank Barbiere, and Leah Williams

Art by: Skylar Patridge, Scott Godlewski, Sami Basri, and Marguerite Sauvage

With the world in chaos and Lazarus raining from the skies, the Earth's protectors from Krypton are hit hard, and the heroes will never be the same again.

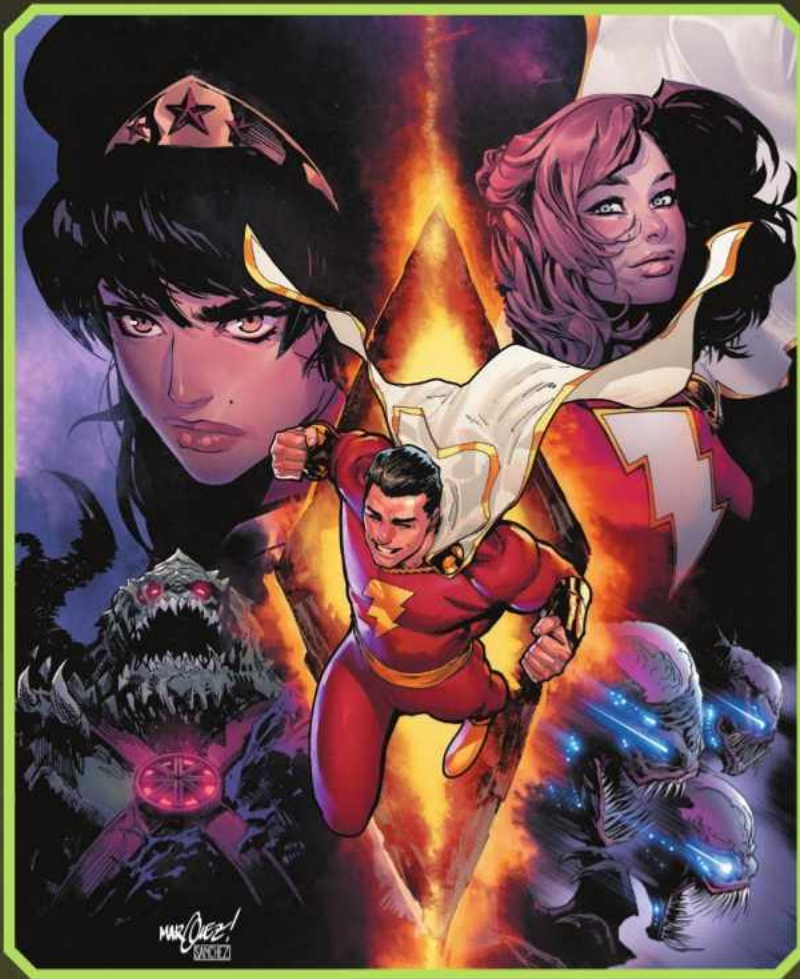


LAZARUS PLANET: NEXT EVOLUTION

Written by: Ram V, Brandon T. Snider, Chuck Brown, and Delilah S. Dawson

Art by: Lalit Kumar Sharma, Laura Braga, Alitha Martinez and Mark Morales, and Ro Stein and Ted Brandt

Amazing new powers have been gifted to the freedom fighters of the future. What perils will these villain-vanquishing virtuosos face alongside a brand-new legend, The Vigil?

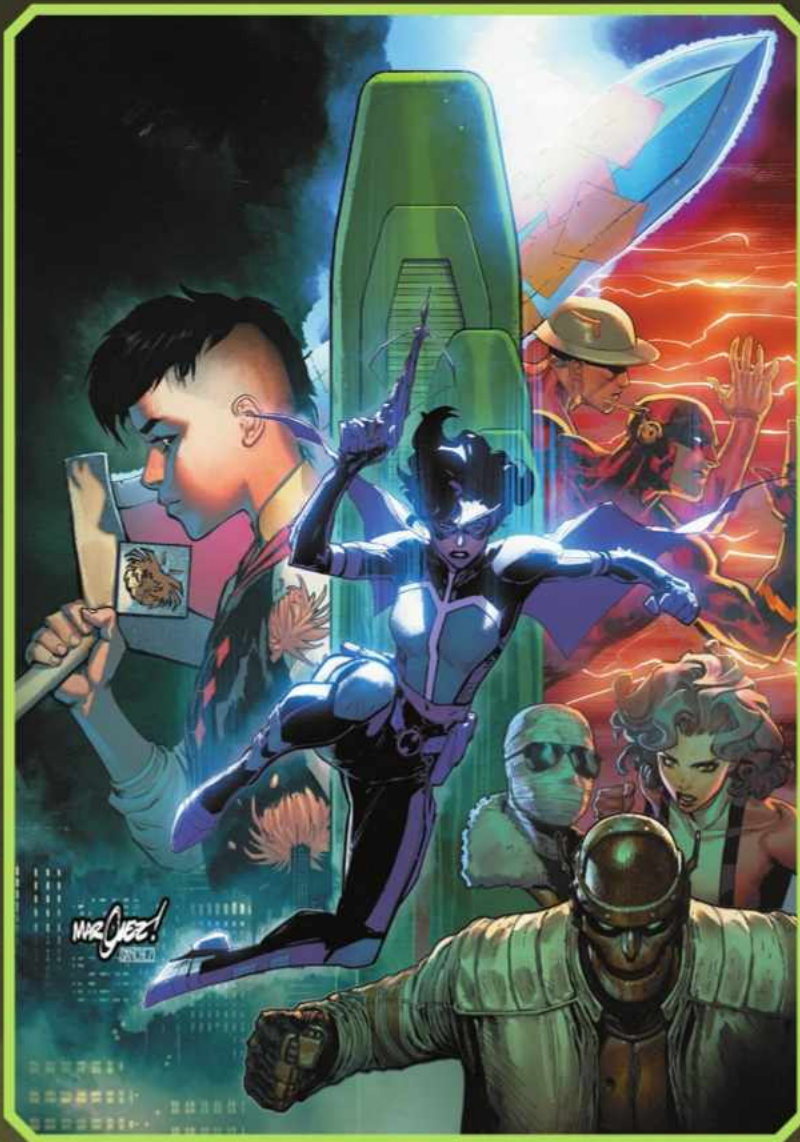


LAZARUS PLANET: WE WERE ONCE GODS

Written by: Francis Manapul, Dan Watters, Phillip Kennedy Johnson, and Josie Campbell

Art by: Francis Manapul, Max Dunbar, Jack Herbert, and Caitlin Yarsky

The gods are in for some big changes as Lazarus rain beats down upon the Earth. Explore the Lazarus Planet's effect on DC Universe's extraordinary creatures and locations involving the Shazam Family and the Rock of Eternity.

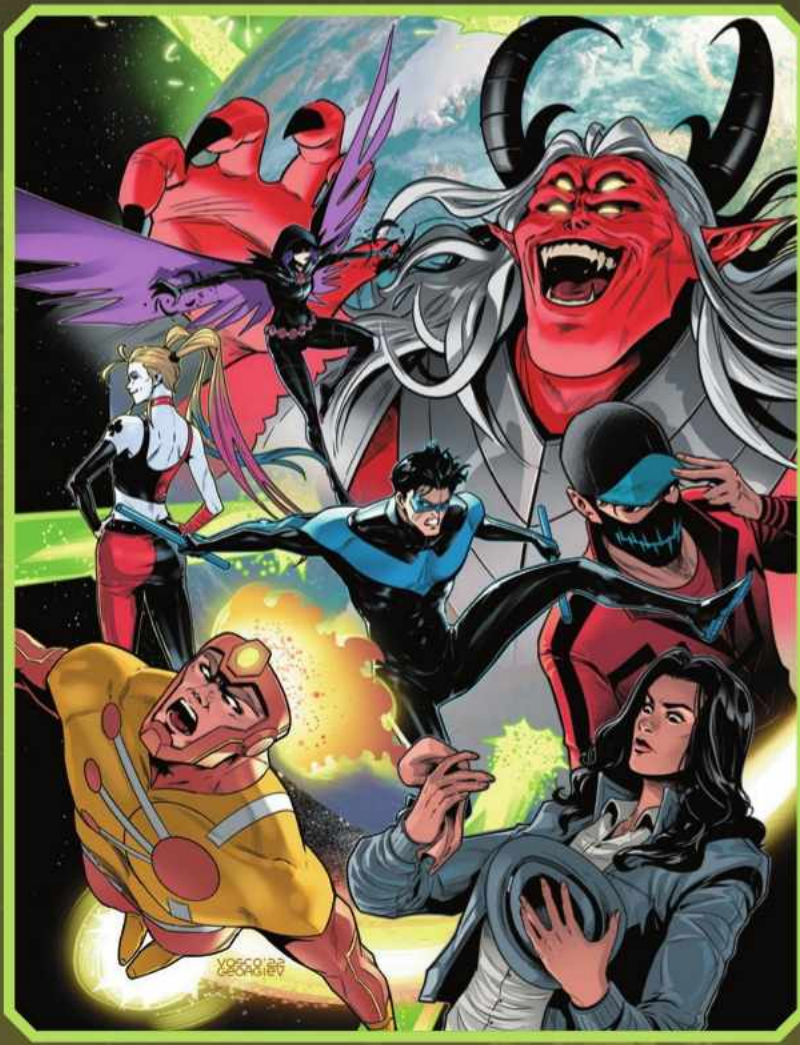


LAZARUS PLANET: DARK FATE

Written by: Tim Seeley, Dennis Culver, A.L. Kaplan, and Alyssa Wong

Art by: Baldemar Rivas, Chris Burnham, A.L. Kaplan, and Haining

Who are the new villains created by the Lazarus rain and what heroes can stop them? A sinister threat will bring a new chapter to the Doom Patrol while a new danger lurks in the dark corners of the Spirit World for new character Xanthe?



LAZARUS PLANET: LEGENDS REBORN

Written by: Alex Segura, Greg Pak, Alex Paknadel, and Dennis Culver

Art by: Clayton Henry, Minkyu Jung, Christopher Mitten, and Jesús Merino

Heroes and villains long forgotten return! Nightwing and the new hero City Boy go on a quest to save Gotham from a surge of fantastical power that will affect the DC Universe forevermore!

LAZARUS PLANET: REVENGE OF THE GODS (COVER COMING SOON)

Written by: G. Willow Wilson

Art by: Cian Tormey & Caitlin Yarsky

The wizard Shazam has teamed up with the Quintessence to regain control of their champions. Shazam and Wonder Woman must work together and defeat the gods as they risk losing their powers for good.

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The Last Kryptonian-DCP



DC UNIVERSE LAZARUS PLANET CHECKLIST

JANUARY

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Alpha* #1
- ☐ *Monkey Prince* #10
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Assault on Krypton* #1
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: We Once Were Gods* #1
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Legends Reborn* #1

FEBRUARY

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Next Evolution* #1
- ☐ *Monkey Prince* #11
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Dark Fate* #1
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Omega* #1
- ☐ *Batman vs. Robin* #5

MARCH

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods* #1
- ☐ *Wonder Woman* #797
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods* #2

APRIL

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods* #3
- ☐ *Wonder Woman* #798
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods* #4



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